



One
HOPE
Ministries

OHM News

Guatemala

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Please send donations to:

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The 2017 school year began on January 11, 2017.

We Need You!

One Hope Ministries' donations have been alarmingly low the last few months. We run this ministry on a budget of \$6000 a month. This includes paying for schools, as well as all the other bills similar to those you face, each month; rent, gas, water, telephone, electricity, vehicle insurance and maintenance, as well as groceries for nine people. We need your prayers and support more than ever to continue to serve here in Guatemala.

For those of you in the Chicago area, please help us raise money by cleaning out your closets! We are teaming up with Savers who will pay us by the pound for good, clean, sellable items. Living Hope Church has agreed to let us store items in their garage now until May 13. You will also receive a tax deduction for your donation. An insert is included with this newsletter with more detailed information. Happy cleaning and please encourage others to help!



Backpack Blessing

I have often wondered just how much the girl's backpacks weighed (24 lbs) because sometimes I will grab one and hand it to them and it feels very heavy. I see them carrying them back and forth to school each day and they always seem to be heavier after a long day at school. Sometimes they say their shoulders or back hurt and I tell them it should not be a surprise when they have such a heavy backpack. The schools here have no lockers to store their books before class. Therefore, the books go home even if they have no homework in that class. Oh and did I mention that they have 15 classes.

Three years ago, I noticed the backpacks we purchased here were not even lasting one year. A group from Canada gave us a donation to purchase some heavier duty ones in the States. They have been a tremendous blessing and are still in good condition and the girls love them.

Opportunities to Serve

The girls have been involved in the Church for a few years now as Sunday school teachers, nursery volunteers and doing the church memory verses during the services. However, this year some have gotten even more involved with Kelly and Mirian singing with the worship team and Isabel working in the sound booth. They are happy to have this opportunity.



Sixth Annual Photo Contest

Each year we give the girls an opportunity to take photos of THEIR Guatemala during their summer vacation time (Nov-Dec). Then I put the photos online and ask YOU to vote on your favorites. The contest is a highlight for the girls, as it gives them a chance to share with you what their Guatemala life is like at home with their family. Since they are from farming families, most of their vacation is spent working; many of them are in the fields day and night.

We invite you to help us choose the winning photos! Please visit our facebook page to view the photos and vote today: <https://www.facebook.com/OneHopeMinistries/> Please click "like" for your favorite photo or photos. You may vote as many times as you would like. Comments are an extra blessing to the girls. The contest ends at 11:59 PM on **Thursday, March 30th**. I will post the first and second place winners on facebook shortly after. Please SHARE with your friends and like "One Hope Ministries" facebook page as well. Thanks for participating.

Here are last year's winning photo taken by Isabel.



Serious Virus Situation!

Although unpleasant, the stomach flu and cold virus are not usually serious. However, these viruses usually trigger vomiting, diarrhea, fever, headaches, cough and an achy body. As a mother, I have dealt with these viruses and their symptoms for many years with our own children, adopted children, children in the orphanage where we served as directors and again now with the girls in One Hope Ministries.

Out of all the hats a mother wears, I for one, have always said that the job of nurse has been the most difficult for me. I have great respect for those who become nurses. Maybe it is the unknown part that bothers me the most...do you send them to school today...what is their temperature...are they dehydrated...do we need to go to the Dr.

With two girls teaching first and second graders and the rest of the girls in school, they seem to bring home many viruses. It seems I am always nursing someone!

However, I recently found that there is one virus that is even more challenging to me than the others are! It is the computer virus! Yes, the girls brought that one home too! Now I can handle most any computer program pretty well, but the internet, and any technical computer stuff is just over my head! I used to have some young people here who could help me out with these kinds of problems; however, these fellows are too busy now. In Guatemala, you cannot ask just anyone to come to your home to work on your computers, as you do not know if they are trustworthy. You also cannot take the computer to the shop

because the computer may not even be there when you return for it...or parts may be missing. We have not personally had this experience but others warned us.

First, I reached out to our son, Jason, who is my computer expert. But it didn't take me long to realize that he was speaking a different language and since I already speak two languages there just wasn't room in my brain to take in any more. The hours and days passed as I researched for a easy step-by-step solution with pictures on the internet for the virus, just as I have searched medical solutions for the girls and their viruses. Yes, I use "Dr. Internet" for many types of viruses and I am happy to say that he has the solution for many types of viruses, both human and computer. I am happy to say the girls are all well and the computers are clear of the virus, however, I have had some frustrating days.



The two daughters of Karen, who was with us in the Orphanage in the 90's. She passes away at age 23.
Top-Judy with her baby,
Bottom- Karla.



Top-Yoba, bottom - Dora, husband and new son. Both with One Hope Ministries 2008-2010.



Top -Ana, bottom-Teresa pictured with their children. They were with us in the orphanage in the 90's

What Do We Do in December?

I have been asked many times, "What do you do in the ministry when the girls go home in December?" Therefore, I thought I would let you know. During December, I go through all the school supplies, cleaning products and hygiene products to organize and replenish for the following school year. I wash all the bedding and organize ministry items; nail clippers, umbrella etc... for the following year. I also make the chore list, parent visiting/phone call chart and Birthday celebration dates for the new school year. We do some spring-cleaning and John does any needed maintenance.

We also try to connect with many of the girls who have been a part of past ministries to see how they are doing and encourage them in their walk with the Lord. The girls begin to return on January first and then we need to purchase everyone's school supplies and get girls fitted for school uniforms. So you see, it is not really a vacation, but rather a preparing time.

Matthew 25:40 says: I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine you did for me.